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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masanobu Fujita et al.
Confirmation No: 9831
Serial No. : 09/890,904
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TC/A.U. : 2124
Examiner : A. Khatri

Docket No. : 01-467
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated September 24, 2004, Applicants respectfully request the examiner to reconsider his rejection for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

Initially Applicants would like to acknowledge the indication of allowability of the subject matter of claims 5, 6, 8 and 16.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending rejected claims are patentable over U.S. Patent 6,524,230 for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

U.S. Patent No. 6,524,230 discloses a cushioning conversion machine 10 which includes a frame 12 for supporting various components of a conversion assembly 14 thereon, and a controller 16 for controlling the machine including the components of the cushioning assembly. Conversion assembly 14 includes a feed

assembly 19 which includes a forming assembly 10 and a gear assembly 22 powered by a feed motor 24, a cutting assembly 26 powered by an AC solenoid driven clutch 30 and a post cutting constraining assembly 32. However, this reference does not show or suggest any of the features of the present invention's claimed software controlled machine.

Specifically, the invention's software controlled machine comprises a sensor means (16) and an operation control circuit (5) connected to the sensor means (16). Operation control circuit (50) has a renewal control program for operating at last one controlled object. For example, such renewal control program may involve an analytical program for analyzing operating data read out from an information card (2) and an operating software for operating the operation control circuit (50) in accordance with the operating data stored in the program memory. Sensor means (16) detects external command information for example a command card (1) to convert it into electric signals and thereby certainly switches operation control circuit (50) from an operating mode to a renewal mode to thereby prevent unauthorized mode-shifting operation control circuit (50). Then, sensor means (16) detects external operating data on software and converts it into electric signals to store them in a program memory (53) for renewal or updating of the software in

accordance with the renewal control program. In lieu of command card (1) and information card (2), electromagnetic wave can be conveyed to sensor means (16) such as visible ray, infrared ray, ultraviolet ray or radio wave including the command information and operating data by emitting from a message transmitter and receiving the electromagnetic wave by sensor means (16).

Examiner cites column 6, lines 21-29; column 8 lines 19-47; column 9, lines 35-67; column 11, lines 27-42; column 5, lines 8-11; column 14, lines 49-64; column 15, lines 54-67; column 21-22, lines 65-; and column 26 lines 14-30; however, there is no suggestion in these portions of the claimed subject matter as set forth above.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims as pending patentably define over the art of record and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the

Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

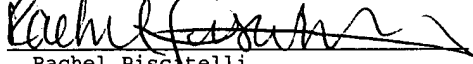
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 21, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on December 21, 2004


Rachel Piscitelli